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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 2837

PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 05905.0157

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2837

Mail Stop AF

Examiner: Marlon T. FLETCHER

In re Application of:

Tohru MITA et al.

Application No.: 10/050,548

Filed: January 18, 2002

For:

AUDIO SIGNAL OUTPUTTING

METHOD AND BGM

GENERATION METHOD

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 18, 2003, the period for response extending to September 18, 2003, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following remarks.

<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14 are pending in this application. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by <u>Yamanoue et al.</u> (U.S. Patent No. 5,767,430). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the following reasons.

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